

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 060408
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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:JWTTWINAM/FGERLACH:CEJ
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANA
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY JIDDA

S E C R E T STATE 060408

EXDIS - FOR AMBASSADOR SCOTES FROM ASSTSEC ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TA : PFOR, YE

SUBJECT: US-PDRY RELATIONS

REF: SANA 700 AND RELATED

1. WE COMMEND YOUR RECENT MESSAGES ON DEVELOPMENTS IN PDRY AND MERITS OF SEEKING RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS. YOUR REPORTING, AND THE COMMENTS OF OTHER POSTS ON THIS SUBJECT, HAVE GIVEN SHARPER FOCUS AND DEEPER TEXTURE TO USG UNDERSTANDING OF STATE OF AFFAIRS IN PDRY.

2. WE HAVE WEIGHED CAREFULLY THE DESIRABILITY OF TAKING
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SOME INITIATIVE IN NEAR FUTURE TO RESTORE RELATIONS, IN LIGHT OF ADMINISTRATION'S GENERAL INTEREST IN NORMALIZING RELATIONS WITH STATES FROM WHICH US HAS BEEN ESTRANGED. AFTER REVIEW WE HAVE DETERMINED NOT TO PROCEED AT THIS TIME WITH AN INITIATIVE OF THE SORT YOU PROPOSE. FACT THAT SAUDI ARABIA PREFERS WE TAKE NO ACTION AT THIS TIME WHILE RESULTS OF ITS OWN EFFORT TO MODERATE PDRY ACTIONS

BEGIN TO UNFOLD WAS A SIGNIFICANT CONSIDERATION IN REACHING THIS CONCLUSION. MORE BROADLY, HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE OUR PRESENT PASSIVE POSTURE TOWARD PDRY IS BEST CALCULATED TO MAINTAIN WHATEVER PRESSURE THERE MAY BE FOR PDRY TO IMPROVE ITS RELATIONS WITH ITS PENINSULA NEIGHBORS, AND PERHAPS

AS INDICATED IN RECENT PDRY-UK EXCHANGES, WITH WESTERN EUROPE. WE ARE HESITANT TO TAKE AT THIS STAGE AN INITIATIVE WHICH MIGHT UNDERCUT EFFORTS OF FRIENDLY STATES WITH BETTER NEAR TERM PROSPECTS THAN US OF DEVELOPING CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH PDRY.

3. AS WE AWAIT IMPROVEMENT IN CLIMATE FOR OUR POSSIBLY TAKING INITIATIVE OF OUR OWN, WE REMAIN OPEN TO ANY SERIOUS AND AUTHORITATIVE PDRY INITIATIVE TO RESTORE RELATIONS.
VANCE

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